UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/120
5 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 5 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CROATIA, SLOVENIA AND THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We have taken note of the letter by the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), Mr. Živadin Jovanović, dated 1 February 1999 addressed to you (S/1999/107) and, without commenting on the substance of the other elements of the letter, we should like to refer to its second paragraph, where the Federal Minister states that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) is a "State Member of the United Nations". That reference is not correct.

Security Council resolution 777 (1992) and General Assembly resolution 47/1 of 22 September 1992 stipulate that "the state formerly known as the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has ceased to exist", that "the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) cannot continue automatically the membership of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations" and "that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should apply for membership in the United Nations".

Furthermore, we should like to reiterate once again the common position of our Governments regarding the status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the United Nations.

All five States that have emerged following the dissolution of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are equal successor States and four of them have applied and have been admitted into the membership of the United Nations. Until the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) submits an application for membership in the United Nations, as envisaged by the above-mentioned resolutions, and until it is admitted into the membership in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, it cannot be considered a Member State of the United Nations.

We should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Bosnia and Herzegovina

(Signed) Naste ČALOVSKI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Macedonia

(Signed) Ivan ŠIMONOVIĆ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Croatia

(Signed) Danilo TÜRK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Slovenia